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## Memos

11.21.2018- Unofficial Election Results- General Election- November 6, 2018

### Georgette Gomez Has Nearly Locked Down the Council Presidency

**Posted:** November 26, 2018 – Voice of San Diego

Reporter: Andrew Keatts

Everything is lining up for Councilwoman Georgette Gomez to be San Diego's next Council president.

If that happens, she would suddenly find herself as one of the region's most powerful elected officials.

Gomez, who represents the Council district covering City Heights, Kensington and the College Area, has not been shy about indicating she wanted the Council presidency, where she'll control committee appointments and the Council's docket, but also have the chance to set a progressive agenda for a Council with a newfound Democratic supermajority.

Last week, she confirmed she was angling for the job and said she already had an idea of where she wanted to go with it.

“The opportunity that has been given, I think the voters have given something that I think if done correctly, we can truly change the narrative in San Diego and make an agenda that is community-based, that is equity-based, this is the beginning of that,” she said at a Voice of San Diego event this month in Barrio Logan.

She now appears to have secured four votes, leaving her one shy of confirmation. Comments by her and other Council members suggest she could already have the votes locked up.

The other veteran Democrats on the Council – Barbary Bry and Chris Ward – were expected to make runs of their own, and had already won some potential support. Jeff Powell, communications director for Republican Councilman Scott Sherman, said he thought the Council’s three Republicans could support Ward, who he said had demonstrated an

independent streak.

Ward, however, told VOSD he's throwing his support behind Gomez.

"Councilmember Gomez and I share a commitment to pursuing a meaningful, community-driven agenda this next year and building a strong progressive council to champion it," Ward said in a statement. "I'm confident that Georgette is prepared to lead this incoming council with purpose, and I'm proud to support her as our next Council president."

Unlike Ward, Bry would not say outright that she was not running and would support Gomez, but indicated she'd vote along with the rest of her colleagues and was ready to support someone besides herself.

"Councilmember Bry will join her Council colleagues in supporting the Council president who will continue to move San Diego forward, and who will docket a robust agenda in order to tackle some of the region's most pressing issues," Bry spokeswoman Lora Fleming said.

Republican Councilman Chris Cate appears ready to support Gomez too, despite their ideological differences.

"My team and I have a good rapport with Councilmember Gomez and her office," he said. "She has always been forthright and honest. I believe those qualities are important for our next Council president."

Councilwoman-elect Vivian Moreno – who is still hesitant to declare victory, though the rest of City Hall has already done so – said she would support Gomez, who “pounded the pavement” for her in her district.

"She's a natural leader, and I appreciate her attention and honesty to the residents," Moreno said.

That gives Gomez four votes, counting her vote for herself. And Gomez seems to think she's got a good chance of winning support from Councilwoman-elect Monica Montgomery, who knocked off outgoing Council President Myrtle Cole in the city's southeastern district. At the VOSD event Gomez drew a connection between herself, Moreno and Montgomery as leaders who won with community support, rather than institutional backing from organized labor or the county's Democratic Party – and who represent the city's underfunded, minority communities.

Montgomery wouldn't say who she was supporting but described her ideal candidate.

“I am looking for a Council president who will move a progressive agenda that will focus on the needs of underfunded communities,” she said. “I’m looking for someone who will be independent – who will stand up to the mayor, or stand with the mayor, if need be.”

The Council presidency selection is the first taste for Republicans of life [under a Democratic supermajority](#).

Despite being in the minority, [Republicans managed to select the last two Council presidents by promising their four votes to a Democrat](#) who, by voting for themselves, could buck the Democratic majority. In the end, other Democrats voted with the majority once it seemed inevitable, providing cover to the Democrat who made the deal, but there was never any secret that Republicans and the mayor had orchestrated the selection process.

Given their current position, Republicans are having a harder time pulling off a deal.

“When we had four votes, people came and talked to us,” Powell said. “Now, to have a Democrat going to another Democrat to say, ‘I have three Republican votes, are you with me?’ is a pretty hard sell.”

Any path for Bry would need to follow Powell’s scenario. She’d have to win three Republican votes and one other Democrat, plus her own vote. Councilwoman-elect Jen Campbell, the Council’s sixth Democrat, did not respond to a request for comment.

[Faulconer himself, though, has said he has a good relationship with Gomez.](#) Earlier this year, he made a rare appearance at a Metropolitan Transit System meeting to support her becoming MTS’s board chair. County Supervisor Ron Roberts, a fellow Republican, had to abandon his bid once Faulconer did so.

“I like working with her,” Faulconer told VOSD at the time. “I probably shouldn’t say too many nice things, because you know then I’ll ruin her cred with the progressive community. But, look, she’s a fair, determined, direct individual.”

[If Gomez indeed wins the Council presidency, she’ll be suddenly find herself second only to the mayor in her ability to affect local policy.](#)

[The position would give her the ability to direct the City Council’s legislative agenda. Before he was ousted from the Council presidency by Republicans in 2014, now-Assemblyman Todd Gloria led a Council that raised the minimum wage, increased a development fee for low-income housing and passed new development regulations in Barrio Logan](#) – though two of those measures were later repealed or scaled back when business groups collected signatures to overturn them.

Gomez also remains MTS's board chair. That could also be an influential regional position, because the agency is pursuing a measure for the 2020 ballot that would increase taxes to pay for transit improvements countywide.

And thanks to recent state legislation, the Council president is automatically one of the city's representatives on the San Diego Association of Governments. That agency is likewise at a critical juncture, as it prepares to adopt a new, multi-decade outline of the region's transportation system in early 2020. Thanks to that same state legislation, San Diego is the most powerful city within that agency, since all votes are now weighted by each city's population.

The City Council is scheduled to choose its new leader on Dec. 10, right after the newly elected Council members are inaugurated. Gomez has the inside track, and would begin 2019 in a powerful position to shape local public affairs.

## **Del Mar opposes fencing train tracks to keep people off unstable bluffs**

Posted: November 26, 2018 – The San Diego Union Tribune

Reporter: Phil Diehl

A proposal to install fencing along the railroad tracks in [Del Mar](#) has residents saying don't fence us out.

[Del Mar](#) has only one place in town, near Seagrove Park, where people can legally cross the tracks to get to the beach.

As a result, the bluffs south of the park are crisscrossed with "goat trails" where people cross the tracks illegally. They could be ticketed for trespassing, but the law is rarely enforced.

Use of the unauthorized trails contributes to the bluffs' erosion, which occurs naturally and has threatened the coastal tracks in Del Mar for years.

A bluff collapse in August came too close for comfort, and North County Transit District halted all trains for hours until inspectors determined it was safe to resume traffic.

Soon afterward, the transit district announced it would fence the railroad right-of-way to keep people off the bluffs and allow vegetation to grow as part of ongoing stabilization efforts.

Beachgoers were not happy.

"I have used the access path at 7th Street for close to 40 years to safely reach the beach to surf my local breaks between 6th and 8th streets," Stratford Court resident Daniel Jensvold wrote in a letter to the Del Mar City Council.

"This is the most critical issue facing the council," Jensvold said. "Our beach access is the reason we live here ... (and) a simplistic fencing proposal to satisfy safety and erosion' issues is totally unacceptable."

An NCTD safety chief was unavailable to discuss the issue on Tuesday, but Del Mar found hope in the district's recent announcement that before installing any fencing it would complete a feasibility study and consider other alternatives.

Mayor Dwight Worden said the city hopes to collaborate with the transit district on its study.

"I'd hate to see a fence," Worden said. "We may need to hire our own experts, do our own analysis and really stand our ground ... to make sure all the options for safety are covered and not just fencing."

Most of the recent Del Mar bluff collapses have occurred between 9th and 11th streets, which are popular places to cross the tracks.

NCTD has completed three separate bluff stabilization projects in Del Mar since 1998 at a total cost of about \$5 million, according to a recent district newsletter. In some areas, that included the installation of concrete, steel-reinforced piles, 3 feet in diameter and 50 feet deep on the west side of the tracks to increase slope stability.

Other efforts included the installation of additional storm drains and underground pipes to better control stormwater runoff, and sensors to monitor ground movement.

Del Mar formed a committee 20 years ago to look at locations where legal pedestrian crossings to the beach could be added. They agreed on four possible locations: the Torrey Pines State Reserve bridge at the city's southern border, Eighth Street, 11th Street, and 29th Street on the northern border.

Those suggestions were presented to NCTD at the time, said Councilman Dave Druker, who served on the committee. But the transit district said the city would have to pay for any new crossings, and the city didn't have the money, which ended the discussion.

Legal crossings are expensive. Federal transit authorities prefer overpasses or underpasses which carry huge planning and construction costs. At-grade crossings are considered less safe and are rarely approved.

"This has been an issue that has concerned me for 20 years," Druker said Monday. "It turns out that 11th Street is the most crossed area illegally on the track in the entire county. That's a spot where we want to have a crossing."

A better solution would be to move the entire southern Del Mar segment of the railroad track east of the bluff, another idea that has been talked about for years.

That probably would require tunneling under portions of the city, with years of environmental studies followed by lengthy construction. Current estimates of the total costs are between \$2.5 billion and \$3.5 billion.

The alternate route is being considered by the area's regional planning agency, the San Diego Association of Governments, as part of long-term efforts to double-track the entire San Diego County coastal railway. More than half the route has been completed, and Del Mar could be the last piece with a single set of tracks because of the narrow bluff-top passage.

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Del Mar's 2.5-mile section of track carries 45 passenger trains and six freight trains a day, said Councilman Terry Sinnott, and those numbers are increasing.

"We can't move the tracks immediately, but we should be moving the tracks eventually," Sinnott said.

The Del Mar section will become more of a bottleneck as train traffic increases, he said.

"We can't rely on a single track segment that goes on an unstable bluff that is eroding more rapidly than ever," Sinnott said. "From a transportation standpoint, we need to begin working right now to solve that problem."

## Op-Ed on the Status of the Select Committee on Homelessness

Posted: November 26, 2018 – The San Diego Free Press

Reporter: Chris Ward

When I took office two years ago, San Diego's urban core neighborhoods were in the midst of a homelessness crisis with no clear strategy to tackle the issue. My top priority has been improving our response to this devastating crisis, but one Councilmember can't do it alone.

Building on successful approaches in other cities and national best practices, I outlined ideas and policies for a holistic response, and working with my colleagues, we've made important progress to increase funding, expand life-saving supportive services, and house our homeless.

In early 2017, the City Council created a Select Committee on Homelessness dedicated to reviewing and improving City approaches for reducing homelessness. The committee held its final meeting Thursday, and our ongoing work now continues through standing committees.

It's important to review our accomplishments, and identify what challenges and opportunities remain ahead to ensure all San Diegans have a safe, stable home.

Last year, the Hepatitis A emergency demanded quick action, and with the leadership of the Council and Mayor, we successfully implemented temporary safe camping and parking programs, additional public restrooms, hand-washing stations, targeted street sanitation, storage facilities, and bridge shelters providing safety and services for 700 homeless San Diegans.

Meanwhile, as Chair of the Select Committee, I started with the basics. We updated the Council's Policy on Homelessness for the first time since 1995 to with a commitment to proven Housing First strategies. Collaborating with our state legislators, we streamlined housing development opportunities, and the City officially declared a Shelter Crisis, unlocking millions in new state funding for housing and services.

With the County, we've doubled the Psychiatric Emergency Response Teams providing emergency assessment and referrals to help people with mental illness. At the Regional Task Force on the Homeless, we're improving the region's underlying data systems and

coordination, while paving the way to receive millions more in state homeless dollars and private investment to scale up successful programs countywide.

As we identified gaps in our system, the Select Committee acted on new approaches to house our homeless. That's included a targeted rapid housing effort, emphasizing diversion programs, and tapping state funding to lay the groundwork for a new flexible housing spending pool to support innovative rental assistance strategies. We're currently moving forward a pilot program coupling intensive employment services with our rapid re-housing programs, and implementation of the Housing Commission's Housing 3.0 plan is providing \$79 million to boost affordable housing.

As success stories from other regions have demonstrated, real change takes years of sustained effort. We have a strong foundation, and downtown's on-street homeless population is decreasing, but there's much more ahead.

Last month, Council unanimously adopted my resolution setting a goal of building 140 Permanent Supportive Housing units in each council district – enough to house every chronically homeless San Diego household. And city staff have now begun assessing city-owned properties to identify possible housing sites and ways to expedite projects.

Our committee moved forward on creating a citywide outreach protocol improving our proactive work meeting homeless San Diegans where they are to resolve encampment issues and connect them with the specific services and housing they need. And now, the Housing Commission is underway on my request to develop a comprehensive plan to help ensure our limited homelessness dollars go to our most acute needs.

In 2019, we need a regional solution to provide recuperative care beds allowing people to fully recover from acute health issues after leaving area hospitals, and revival of the Resource Access Program (RAP) to relieve pressure on our 9-1-1 emergency services. And we need a workable strategy to convert dilapidated motels into supportive housing, which brings new units online faster and cheaper.

We've made critical progress to develop services and outreach programs aligned with clearly-defined needs, and soon we'll have the analysis for a comprehensive homelessness strategy to guide future City investments.

Ultimately, we will be judged by the most important metric of all: Making housing attainable for all San Diegans. I am confident we're finally on the right track, and we have identified opportunities that will bring us closer to resolving our homelessness crisis. I remain committed to prioritizing this work throughout San Diego until every homeless individual is housed.

## Morning Report: A Border Shutdown

Posted: November 26, 2018 – The Voice of San Diego

Reporter: Voice of San Diego

The San Ysidro Port of Entry is one of the busiest border crossings in the world — especially so on the Sunday after a holiday weekend. But U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials shut it down in both directions Sunday after a group of migrants rushed toward the border. The Border Patrol [reported](#) that a breakaway group from a demonstration went through vehicle lanes, where they were turned back. Elsewhere, the Tijuana River crosses the border in a notorious concrete canal. Our Adriana Heldiz captured video of the moment many demonstrators [ran across the canal](#) and then [toward the fencing on the U.S. side](#) and PedWest. That was when officials shut down the border.

One report cited an unnamed Mexican official who said [30 people breached](#) the border. Mexico pledged to deport them. U.S. law enforcement — provoked, officials said, by people throwing projectiles — fired tear gas over the border and into the crowd. That move got the world's attention and produced some stunning images, including [an instantly iconic picture](#) of a woman running from the tear gas with two small children. U.S. Rep. Juan Vargas, who represents the area, [slammed President Trump](#) in a prepared statement.

While attention on [the migrant caravan](#) that made its way from Honduras had waned, Sunday's events brought a vast humanitarian crisis developing in Tijuana to the world's attention. And it was the stuff of nightmares for business leaders and border politicians who have worked for years to keep the cross-border economy healthy amid compounding threats. For several hours, Interstate 5 and roads all around the border crossing [were eerily empty](#) but for law enforcement. By 5 p.m., both pedestrian and vehicle lanes were open again.

**Tijuana's crisis:** Days earlier, Mayor Juan Manuel Gastélum had declared a humanitarian crisis and asked the United Nations for aid as approximately 5,000 Central American migrants seeking asylum arrived and thousands more were expected.

- Manuel Figueroa, head of the city's social services department, [told the Associated Press](#) that "because of the absence, the apathy and the abandonment of the federal government, we are having to turn to international institutions like the U.N."
- KPBS reports that many mothers within the caravan are worried that the unruly men in their midst are [hurting everyone's chances for asylum in the United States](#). According to the U-T, more than 100 Central Americans had been [detained, most for non-violent crimes](#) involving drug possession, being drunk in public or disturbing the peace.
- Meanwhile, health conditions appear to be worsening inside one large camp. The U-T reports that the government of Baja California by Friday [had treated 818 respiratory infections](#) and conducted 1,286 general medical consultations.
- Tijuana has some experience with this. When the United States stopped accepting Haitian refugees, some 3,000 ended up staying in Tijuana and many of them [have built successful lives there](#). (Associated Press)
- Mexico [will deport](#) many of those arrested in the melee. (Associated Press)

**Before Sunday's mess:** The Trump administration appears to have won the support of Mexico's president-elect on a plan to [require migrants wait in Mexico while their asylum claims](#) work through the U.S. court system. The Washington Post reports that the agreement would break with long-standing asylum rules and place a formidable barrier in the path of migrants. Mexican officials, however, [threw some cold water](#) on the report.

## New Council President? The Rise of Georgette Gomez

Georgette Gomez is poised to become one of the region's most powerful elected officials. Andrew Keatts reports that the San Diego City Councilwoman whose district includes City

Heights has [all but locked up the votes](#) needed to become the next Council president, and she plans to push a progressive agenda.

Republicans helped orchestrate the selection of the last two Council presidents by supporting a Democrat willing to buck partisan allies. But Democrats now hold a supermajority, so the calculus has changed.

Gomez chairs the Metropolitan Transit System, and, if she wins the council presidency, she'll become one of the city's representatives to the San Diego Association of Governments, or SANDAG. Both are at critical junctures as they lay out the plans for transportation improvements and growth across the county,

Thanks to state legislation, San Diego is the most powerful city within SANDAG, because votes are weighted by each city's population.

### Politics Roundup: The San Diego Special

On the podcast, Scott Lewis, Sara Libby and Andrew Keatts considered some of the major issues in [San Diego that have politically paralyzed local leaders](#) in recent years. It comes in response to an op-ed written by Assemblyman Todd Gloria, who [urged other officials](#) not to let their disagreements for an expanded airport terminal mean nothing gets done.

Republican state Sen. Joel Anderson lost his bid for the Board of Equalization to an 80-year-old perennial candidate with a controversial past. While Anderson's loss doesn't necessarily derail his [political future, it certainly raises doubts](#), writes U-T columnist Michael Smolens. As we noted recently, the Democrat who beat Anderson had no institutional support, but [benefited from this year's blue wave](#).

### In Other News

- [Supporters of a 204-unit apartment building say the Bankers Hill project will help ease San Diego's housing crisis and help the city meet goals for reducing greenhouse gases](#) because it's near transit, bike lanes and the city's job centers. Residents don't like it. So they're threatening to sue on environmental grounds. (Union-Tribune)
- [The California Coastal Commission is increasing pressure on coastal cities to include managed retreat](#) — the process of removing homes and infrastructure along the seashore — as part of the mix for future planning, as water levels rise. Del Mar is resistant to the idea. (Union-Tribune)
- The board that governs [SANDAG will have new leadership next year](#). Both the chair and vice chair are North County mayors and they belong to different political parties. (KPBS)
- [San Diego's cruise ship terminal has been in a world of hurt the last few years, after passengers coming through the Port of San Diego's cruise ship terminals crashed from nearly a million in 2008 to just 183,000 four years ago](#). But [there's reason for optimism](#), as increased interest in cruises to the Baja Peninsula has increased traffic, with the Port expecting 295,000 passengers this season and as many as 340,000 by 2020. (Union-Tribune)
- [San Diego's marijuana supply chain is taking shape, but there are only so many production facility permits to go around](#). New members of the City Council may be more sympathetic to the marijuana industry's argument that more legal businesses are needed to undercut the black market. (Union-Tribune)
- [Had it passed, Proposition 3 would have allowed Borrego Springs to fallow citrus and other farms](#). The land would have returned to its natural state as a desert. Now, the community in northeastern San Diego County [needs to reduce its water consumption by 75 percent](#) in the

coming decades. (Union-Tribune)

- It took almost a quarter century for local, state and federal agencies to come together and a replace a fence protecting the Silver Strand from a nature preserve. The project was proposed the same year the San Diego Chargers won their only AFC championship. (Union-Tribune)
- A San Marcos woman who survived the horrors of the Jonestown religious cult looks back. Forty years later, she wrestles with its legacy. (Union-Tribune)

## **SEX HARASSMENT charges against BAUMAN roil Dems -- BORDER CHAOS: San Ysidro closed temporarily, tear gas used -- Calls for GIANTS boycott -- CAMP FIRE contained; 85 dead, 249 still missing**

Posted: November 26, 2018 – Politico

Reporter: Carla Marinucci, Jeremy B. White and Maya Parthasarathy

**THE BUZZ:** The California Democratic Party's celebration of its big midterm victories over Republicans came to a screeching halt this weekend with a scandal ripping through the party ranks: sexual harassment allegations against party chair Eric Bauman, who helped shepherd the party's win record.

-- THE ALLEGATIONS against Bauman stem from incidents that occurred days before the midterm election aboard a campaign bus, where there were allegations of excessive drinking and inappropriate behavior involving volunteers and staffers, sources tell POLITICO. An internal party investigation was launched then, but there were some dramatic developments over the weekend.

- EXPLOSIVE CHARGES by party vice chair Daraka Larimore-Hall, alleging "horrific" abuses by Bauman, circulated via an unsigned document which went out to media via email and on Twitter. Some party insiders said it may have been a draft not intended for public viewing, but it pushed the story into the headlines. Larimore-Hall, who ironically stars on Bauman's Twitter page in a hands-raised victory salute with the party chair, didn't return repeated requests for comment from POLITICO.

-- WHAT'S IT ALL MEAN? The continued rifts between Berniecrats and more mainstream Dems have become painfully evident in the wake of Bauman's election as chairman of the California Democratic Party in May 2017; he won the seat over progressive activist Kimberly Ellis by a razor-thin margin in one of the most bitterly contested party elections in memory. Some of Ellis' followers have already called for her installment as chair in the wake of the scandal. Rep. Ro Khanna, who backed Ellis, over the weekend took to Twitter to suggest the party should consider installment of Michele Dauber. She's the Stanford professor who lead the recall drive for Judge Aaron Persky, who presided over the controversial rape trial of Stanford athlete Brock Turner.

-- OUCH -- This weekend's events dramatize how the scab has been ripped off the progressive-vs.-mainstream Dem rift all over again — and that's not good headed toward 2020, when the state is looking to play a more prominent role in the Democratic presidential nominating process. 'This is straight up coup for the party. ... It's civil war,' one insider told us. Bauman gets a 10-day period to respond to charges, but there's concern that the party chair

has already become the focus of unsubstantiated charges via an anonymous Twitter account. "We can't be using the #MeToo movement as a political hit machine — and that's what going on..."

-- BOTTOM LINE: California Democratic Party Women's Caucus Chair Christine Pelosi, in a [blogpost](#), has advised caution: "Please treat the process with love and care for the people who are coming forward and for #CADEM officers and staff who deserve due process not #TwitterJustice. There is a painful road ahead that we must travel with integrity. Don't use others' pain for your gain! Thank you."

-- VIA POLITICO's DAVID SIDERS: "In a prepared statement late Saturday, Bauman said a prompt, thorough and independent investigation of the allegations has been undertaken by a respected outside investigator, ensuring these individuals making the charges are treated with respect and free from any concerns of retaliation."

But Bauman appeared unwavering, saying, "I look forward to putting these allegations behind us and moving forward as unified Democrats." [Story.](#)

BUENOS DIAS, Good Monday morning. GOP Rep. David Valadao has seen his lead slashed in the late vote count. There's some high profile calls for a Giants boycott, based on a key executive's donation to embattled, appointed Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.). And Rep. Adam Schiff, soon to take over House intelligence, wants answers on the Khashoggi murder.

QUOTE OF THE DAY: "The president is not being honest with the country about the murder of Jamal Khashoggi. I think, in part, he feels that by saying that we don't know or that the world is a dangerous place or everybody does it, he thinks it makes him look strong. It actually makes him look weak. It means that our allies don't respect us, our enemies don't fear us...We know he has openly bragged about how many millions he makes from Saudi Arabia. Is his personal financial interest driving U.S. policy in the Gulf?" -- Rep. Adam Schiff on [CNN's "State of the Union"](#) Sunday.

TWEET OF THE DAY: THIS MORNING -- TRUMP THREATENS TO "PERMANENTLY" CLOSE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER: Donald J. Trump

@realDonaldTrump: "Mexico should move the flag waving Migrants, many of whom are stone cold criminals, back to their countries. Do it by plane, do it by bus, do it anyway you want, but they are NOT coming into the U.S.A. We will close the Border permanently if need be. Congress, fund the WALL!" [Link to tweet.](#)

-- Where's Jerry? Nothing official announced.

-- Where's Gavin? Nothing official announced.

## TOP TALKERS

-- SAN QUENTIN PODCAST HOST GETS SENTENCE COMMUTED by Governor Jerry Brown via NPR: Earlonne Woods, co-host of the popular prison podcast "[Ear Hustle](#)," got a great Thanksgiving gift from California Gov. Jerry Brown, who commuted his sentence over the weekend. Woods, 47, has served 21 years of a 31 years -to-life-prison sentence for attempted robbery. Brown cited the public benefits of his "Ear Hustle" broadcast, which takes listeners inside the prison with stories told by prisoners - their intimate, honest conversations about family visits, cellmates, solitary confinement and more. [Story.](#) It's a tear-jerker to listen as Woods himself announces the news to his listeners -- and his mom [here](#).

-- FIRST IN PLAYBOOK: GROWING CALLS FOR SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

BOYCOTT -- last night via Bay Area Civil Rights [Attorney John Burris](#): "When I learned that Charles Johnson, principal owner of the San Francisco Giants sent \$2,700 to Cindy Hyde-Smith, a candidate for Mississippi Senator and an avowed segregationist, I was shocked and felt a sense of community betrayal. Even more appalling is that Johnson most recently sent money to a hate group in Arkansas who produced a radio ad that said "white Democrats will be lynching black folk again...As such I will never attend, and I will encourage others not to attend another San Francisco Giants' game as long as Charles Johnson is associated with the team. As a public trust, the Giants' have a responsibility to its players and fans to act now."

-- Sociologist Dr. Harry Edwards @DrHarryEdwards: "I join Attorney John Burris in calling for a total boycott of ALL SF Giants games, community events, and other activities until its owner explains his financial support for segregationist advocates of public hangings and "monkey" comments."

-- And from SAC BEE'S MARCOS BRETON: S.F. Giants, I won't support racism. So you aren't getting any more of my money." [Column](#).

It's MONDAY -- Got a tip? Feedback News to share? Let us know.

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**THE TRUMP ERA**

BORDER WARS -- San Ysidro border crossing closed for hours; U.S. officials fire tear gas at migrants," by Wendy Fry, Lyndsay Winkley, Mike Freeman in the San Diego Union-Tribune

-- The U.S.-Mexico border at the San Ysidro Port of Entry was closed in both directions for more than five hours on Sunday after hundreds of migrants rushed the area, prompting federal authorities to launch tear gas in an apparent attempt to get the group to disperse. The chaos left pedestrians on both sides of the border stranded, snarled freeway traffic for miles and prompted the closure of a nearby outlet mall on one of the busiest shopping days of the season, all as helicopters circled in the sky.

-- "The confrontations highlighted the escalating tensions along the border as thousands of migrants from Central America poured into Tijuana in recent weeks seeking U.S. asylum. President Trump has pushed to keep any migrants in Mexico as they await the immigration process. [Story](#).

-- Buzzfeed immigration reporter Hamed Aleaziz @Haleaziz: "Spoke w/ an asylum officer tonight who told me: "I think it's illegal that they closed the border. We cannot decide when we can close the border if there's no state of emergency. For a couple dozen asylum seekers? That was not an emergency that should justify closing the border."

-- RELEASED OVER HOLIDAY WEEKEND: MORE WILDFIRES, MORE WARNINGS -- "Climate change damage will harm the entire nation if the U.S. doesn't act now, federal report warns," by LATimes' Tony Barboza: "Climate change is taking an increasing toll on the

nation's environment, health and economy, and the damage will intensify over the century without swift action to slash greenhouse gas emissions, according to a major scientific report released Friday by federal agencies. [Story](#).

-- "Pelosi's Grip on Power to Be Tested This Week: Also on lawmakers' agenda -- how to avoid a partial government shutdown come December," via Wall Street Journal: [Story](#).

## 2020 WATCH

-- KAMALA WATCH -- "Democrats' Senate losses jeopardize national spotlight for possible 2020 hopeful," by WaPo's Karoun Demirjian and Seung Min Kim: "Senate Democrats' midterm losses have created a dilemma for the party's leadership over a key committee seat held by Sen. Kamala D. Harris (D-Calif.), a prospective 2020 presidential contender who is at risk of having to forfeit the high-profile assignment and the national spotlight that comes with it. Harris, a former prosecutor and state attorney general, is the Senate Judiciary Committee's most junior member. ...

"[U]nless Democrats strike a deal, either with the Senate's Republican majority or with fellow Democrats on the committee, numbers and seniority dictate that Harris will be out — and that has liberal groups scrambling to save her position." [Story](#).

-- "How Early Voting Could Turn the Democratic 2020 Race on Its Head," by Gabriel Debenedetti in The New Yorker: "The fact that California delegates could be up for grabs even before Iowa's caucuses begin has been a frequent topic of discussion among some Kamala Harris supporters, and Texas's early potential delegate haul has not been lost on those trying to push Beto O'Rourke into the race. Ahead of a nationwide contest that could come down to a delegate-counting exercise simply because of the sheer number of potential candidates, the thinking goes, any marginal advantage counts." [Story](#).

## GAVINLAND

-- A LOOK AT CALIFORNIA'S "CULTURAL CHANGE" AGENT via LATimes' Melanie Mason: "Jennifer Siebel Newsom will be California's 'first partner.' Her agenda is cultural change" -- "It's not uncommon for a political spouse to play election-night emcee. Less common was the message staring back at her on the electric-pink T-shirts of a cluster of audience members: WE LOVE GAVIN + JEN."

-- "California's first couple now finds themselves navigating notoriously thorny territory: political spouses who share double billing. The Bill and Hillary Clinton era showed how "two for the price of one" could simultaneously evoke a power couple's combination of talents and a presumptuous elevation of an unelected wife." [Story](#).

-- MERCURY-NEWS SUNDAY A1 via Casey Tolan: "Get ready, California: Gavin Newsom is not Jerry Brown, from governing styles to Trump taunts to hairdos: "One built a multimillion-dollar wine business and once filled the gossip columns with details of his dating life, while the other took vows of poverty, chastity and obedience before spending three years in a Jesuit seminary. One won national fame by marrying same-sex couples, while the other is known for mastering the drudgery of state government and averting financial catastrophe". [Story](#).

## CALIFORNIA AND THE CAPITOL CORRIDOR

-- "Defeat of water bond measure bodes disaster for the desert community of Borrego Springs," by LATimes' J. Harry Jones. [Story](#).

-- MATTHIAS GAFNI'S LATEST via Merc News: Oakland Catholic diocese delays release of priest sex abuse list until next year: On Oct. 8, the Catholic diocese announced it would release the list in about 45 days, with the 45th day falling on the Friday after Thanksgiving. But on its website, the diocese said it needed more time and moved the new date to "after Jan. 1, 2019." [Story.](#)

-- MUST READ FROM LOPEZ VIA LATIMES: Hidden in L.A. suburbia, wrenching poverty preys on children and destroys dreams. "The \$95 room had two beds, a dark rug, harsh light and the familiar, unnatural scent of motel sanitizing agents. There was no kitchen, no quiet corner for homework, no outdoor space. Anthony, 9, Jordan, 6, and Madelyn, 5, were dressed and ready for school at Telfair Elementary, six miles away in Pacoima...The most disturbing thing about the scene was that for the kids, this was no temporary setback. This was life, dragging belongings from one place to the next, tethered to problems they didn't create. [Story.](#)

## CALIFORNIA ON FIRE

**FIRE FADING FROM COVERAGE** --- CNN's Brian Stelter: "Here's the thing: The Camp Fire death toll is still rising -- it currently stands at 85 -- with 249 people still unaccounted for. So this disaster is arguably becoming a bigger story by the day. But it's no longer "breaking news," so coverage is fading...That's why we need to highlight the local and national coverage that's still going on. Over the weekend, CNN's Ryan Young [profiled the editors](#) of the Chico Enterprise-Record and Paradise Post... [Watch/read here...](#)

-- "Northern California fire now 100 percent contained; 85 dead, 249 still missing" via LA Times: The Camp Fire reached full containment on Sunday morning, after scorching 153,000 acres and destroying nearly 14,000 homes. As many as 1,300 people had been listed as missing in the weeks since the fire ignited, but that number has dropped in recent days as officials confirmed that more people on the list were actually alive. [Story.](#)

-- ICYMI: "Trump promised California \$500 million extra for fire prevention. It was an error," by McClatchy's Emily Cadei: On that money he kept mentioning is in the Farm Bill for California? Doesn't exist. [Story.](#)

## THE MIDTERMS

-- ROUDA'S RIDE -- Among the "Seven Freshmen to watch in the new Congress," via POLITICO's Heather Cagyle -- Harley Rouda: 'California businessman Rouda defeated GOP Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, a 30-year incumbent who made headlines for his affinity for all things Russia, including its president Vladimir Putin. ... Now Rouda hopes to land a spot on the Transportation or Energy committees so he can focus on his main goal: pushing an infrastructure bill that addresses climate change, he said in an interview.' [Story.](#)

-- CD-21 (GOP Rep. David Valadao vs. Democrat TJ Cox): Latest count: Valadao with 54,713 votes (50.2 percent), lead shrunk to just 447 votes over Cox with 54,266 votes (49.8 percent).

-- SD-34: FLIPPED -- GOP Janet Nguyen vs. Democrat Tom Umberg. Umberg leads with 50.41 percent to Nguyen's 49.59 percent. (131,656 to 129,526).

-- VIA AXIOS: "How California spent its way to more reliable elections" -- "Most states can't afford the complete election system overhauls security experts believe they need. But California has budgeted for election cybersecurity at a level most states could never manage

without federal funding. The big picture: California's elections are what those in every state could look like, with enough money. [Story](#).

-- RON BROWNSTEIN'S TAKE via The Atlantic: "California Has Become a Crisis for the Republicans"-- "For all the focus since Election Day on the Republican Party's precipitous decline in California, the true depth of the collapse is still only coming into focus. And so are the implications of that fall for the GOP's prospects in other western states following the same trajectory of geographic and demographic change that have transformed California's politics over the past 25 years. [Story](#).

## MIXTAPE

-- "California man shot 8 times, dies after checking on concerned neighbor's house," by Amir Vera, CNN: [Story](#).

-- "Longtime San Francisco journalist Ray Taliaferro missing in Kentucky," via SFChronicle: [Story](#).

-- "A dying mall near Apple's headquarters is turning into a fight over Silicon Valley's soul," by SFChronicle's Roland Li. [Story](#).

-- "San Joaquin River salmon make big gains, but don't call it a comeback yet," by Fresno Bee's Lewis Griswold: [Story](#).

-- "Stephen Curry avoids injury in multi-car crash on Highway 24 in Oakland," via Mercury News: [Story](#).

## SILICON VALLEYLAND

-- KARA SWISHER via the NYTimes -- "LEAN OUT: Perhaps it's only fair that, as women like Sheryl Sandberg rise to power, they pay the price for failure. But why is everyone so ready to forgive the man who really runs Facebook? [Column](#).

-- ZUCK OVER AND OUT -- "Mark Zuckerberg is done apologizing," by Maya Kosoff in Vanity Fair: "In the wake of a damning New York Times investigation, the Facebook C.E.O. is sending an emissary in his stead to testify before lawmakers from seven different countries, and buried a Thanksgiving-eve memo by a higher-up. [Story](#).

## CANNABIS COUNTRY

-- "With Jeff Sessions out at the Justice Dept., the marijuana movement exhales" by LA Times' Kurtis Lee: "He described marijuana as a "very real danger" and has said its effects are "only slightly less awful" than those of heroin. Once, during a drug hearing when he was a Senator, he said he wanted to send a clear message: "Good people don't smoke marijuana."

-- So when Atty. Gen. Jeff Sessions was ousted recently, a collective sigh of relief rose up from proponents of legalized pot — activists, politicians, investors — who felt targeted by the nation's top law enforcement officer. [Story](#).

## POLITICO

### Morning Transportation

Posted: November 26, 2018 – Politico

Reporter: Sam Mintz

**THE NAUGHTY LIST:** The list of railroads at risk of not meeting a Dec. 31 deadline for installing positive train control is shrinking, your host [reported](#) last week. As of the end of the third quarter this year, only five railroads had installed less than 95 percent of the equipment needed for PTC.

One of those, Amtrak, had pushed that number up to 97 percent by the end of October, bringing it out of the danger zone. The remaining four are the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Altamont Corridor Express, New Jersey Transit and Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board. FRA has threatened that it will hit any that fail with the highest possible fines, which could reach \$28,000 per day. Congress will be keeping a watchful eye on the process through December and into next year.

**IT'S MONDAY:** Thanks for tuning in to POLITICO's Morning Transportation, your daily tipsheet on all things trains, planes, automobiles and ports. With the Thanksgiving relaxation over, we're gearing up for a full week of transportation action on Capitol Hill and beyond. Get in touch with feedback, tips, song lyric suggestions or travel sympathy at [smintz@politico.com](mailto:smintz@politico.com) or [@samjmintz](#).

[“I'm goin out on the highway / Listen to them big trucks whine / I'm goin out on the highway / Listen to them big trucks whine”](#)

**LISTEN HERE:** Follow MT's [playlist](#) on Spotify. What better way to start your day than with songs (picked by us and readers) about roads, rails, rivers and runways?

The adage “work hard and get ahead,” is a waning reality in America today. The question is, what can Washington do to create more opportunity and prosperity in struggling communities across the country? POLITICO convened a bipartisan group of 14 business leaders, thinkers and policymakers to explore the problem and identify solutions that have a realistic path forward with political leaders of both parties. Read the latest issue of The Agenda to [learn more](#).

**Let Women Rule** your inbox: The Women Rule Newsletter is a weekly email that shares original content, practical advice, backstage stories, special events and impactful resources for women at any stage of their career. If you are a woman looking to lead or grow your professional network, look no further than Women Rule. No one rises to the top alone, [so sign up for our newsletter](#) and get started today.

**\*\* A message from Delta Air Lines:** Connecting armed service members with their loved ones while they undergo treatment and recovery is a small way to say thank you to the men and women who bravely serve us. Learn more on how Delta is committed to supporting veterans, active service members and their families nationwide at [DeltaTakingAction.com](#) \*\*

**THIS WEEK:** The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will consider America's surface transportation needs at one of its last hearings in this Congress. The hearing is Wednesday at 10 a.m. in Dirksen 406. Across the building in the House, the Transportation Committee will hold a hearing Thursday on icebreaker acquisition and national maritime strategy.

**CONSUMER GROUPS CRITICAL OF COMMITTEE PICKS:** Public Citizen toko aim at DOT's reconstituted Consumer Protection Advisory Committee, concerned that two of its

members don't have the right backgrounds to address the issues the committee is tasked with, chief among them a newly-added duty related to addressing in-flight sexual assault and harassment. Specifically, Public Citizen is concerned about the selection of Frances Smith, a fellow at the conservative think-tank Competitive Enterprise Institute, and Maryland Transportation Secretary Pete Rahn.

"The big consumer advisory headline on this, the task force under the consumer protection panel, is preventing sexual misconduct on planes. ... It's something the administration should be taking seriously and putting people with expertise on," said Matthew Kent, a regulatory policy associate at the consumer advocacy group Public Citizen. "But at least two of the people they put on this committee don't seem to have any bearing on the issue at all." Rahn was also the subject of an ethics investigation earlier this year after he waived the state's traditional bidding process for a massive highway project, and then gave a contract partially to a firm he used to work at. Smith's resume shows extensive consumer-focused experience, but nothing that suggests a special expertise in sexual assault or harrassment. DOT did not respond to a request for comment.

What's in store? The committee will meet first on Jan. 16, with sexual assault training, reporting and data collection on the agenda as well as airline ancillary service fee transparency and involuntary changes to passenger itineraries.

## SECURITY

**TALKING TSA TECH:** TSA's executive assistant administrator Darby LaJoye sat down with our Stephanie Beasley last week to talk holiday travel, PreCheck expansion and the deployment of new screening technology. Stephanie asked him about the impact on TSA's workforce from the growth of technology and automation. "It's the people in the organization that are our most valuable asset and resource we have out there. And so, if you look at the officer of the future, it's really more of an analyst. We're now going down to the federal law enforcement training center to train all our folks," LaJoye said.

Putting the dogs to work: LaJoye also talked about the future of TSA's work with canines. He said the agency's dogs working with law enforcement partners will start screening passengers too. "It's really looking at how can we take the canine program and continue to innovate in that area." Pros can read the full interview [here](#).

## INFRASTRUCTURE

**PELOSI'S BARGAINING CHIP:** Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) used a promise to move forward with an infrastructure package as leverage to win back support from a New York Democrat who had previously said he would oppose her bid for Speaker of the House next year. In a statement last week, Rep. Brian Higgins said that in addition to prioritizing Medicare reforms, Pelosi also told him that she "remains committed to bringing a \$1.5 trillion comprehensive infrastructure bill to the floor next year that will provide millions of good paying jobs to hardworking Americans."

**EYEING T&I:** California Democrat Harley Rouda, who unseated long-time Republican incumbent Rep. Dana Rohrabacher in the midterm election, is hoping to land a spot on either the Transportation or Energy committee so he can focus on his main goal of pushing an infrastructure bill that addresses climate change. Read about Rouda and 6 other freshman Democrats to watch in Heather Caygle's [story](#).

## AVIATION

**HEAR THE JETS ROAR:** Noise complaints at the three major airports in the Washington, D.C. region more than doubled last year, [according](#) to the Washington Post. Residents filed more than 96,000 complaints in connection with flights at Baltimore Washington International Airport, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport and Dulles International Airport. “The dramatic increase comes as the state of Maryland pursues legal action against the Federal Aviation Administration over changes to flight paths at BWI and National,” writes the Post’s Lori Aratani. The new flight paths are part of the FAA’s NextGen program, which allows jets to fly more-direct routes, but in some cases they fly over neighborhoods not previously affected by aircraft noise.

## THE AUTOBAHN

- “MIT researchers create plane that flies without any moving parts.” [The Verge](#).
- “Renault-Nissan leaders to meet amid tensions over Ghosn ouster.” [Reuters](#).
- “France to assess financial impact of clashes over fuel tax.” [AP](#).
- “Lawmakers tackle transit problems in rural Georgia.” [Atlanta Journal Constitution](#).
- “Drop the batteries—diamonds and lasers could power your drone.” [Wired](#).

## THE COUNTDOWN

DOT appropriations run out in 12 days. The FAA reauthorization expires in 1,769 days. Highway and transit policy is up for renewal in 675 days.

\*\* A message from Delta Air Lines: Connecting armed service members with their family and loved ones while they undergo treatment and recovery through Delta’s SkyWish program is just a small way to say thank you to the men and women who bravely serve us. Over the past five years, Delta and its customers have donated 148 million miles to Fisher House and Luke’s Wings to provide air travel to wounded, injured, or ill service members, veterans and their families. Learn more on how Delta is committed to supporting veterans and active service members throughout the U.S. at [DeltaTakingAction.com](#) \*\*

## On the agenda, Nov. 25

**Posted:** November 25, 2018 – Th San Diego Union Tribune

Reporter: Laura Groch

## CITY COUNCILS

### CARLSBAD

The [Carlsbad](#) City Council will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday in council chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, to consider zoning amendment and permit requests for Oakmont of Carlsbad, which seeks to build a professional care facility consisting of three buildings: a 128,745-square-foot three-story main building above an underground parking garage, a 42,749-square-foot memory care building above an underground parking garage, and a 4,208-square-foot administration building, on the northwest corner of Faraday Avenue and El Fuerte Street. The council will consider a resolution choosing Alternative No. 2, the two roundabouts alternative, for the Terramar Area Coastal Improvement Project; and resolutions supporting community and school safety, and gun violence prevention.

## **ENCINITAS**

The [Encinitas](#) City Council is scheduled to meet in closed session to discuss litigation at 4 p.m. Wednesday in council chambers, 505 S. Vulcan Ave., and in regular session at 6 p.m.

## **ESCONDIDO**

The Escondido City Council will meet in closed session to discuss property negotiations at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in council chambers, [201 N. Broadway](#). In regular session at 4:30 p.m., the council will consider a resolution to disband the Community Services Commission; hear a climate action plan update; consider amending and re-establishing the salary schedule for unclassified and management groups; and consider raising the rates for residential and commercial solid waste and recycling services. Starting Jan. 1, a 2.62 percent increase would apply to residential collection and a 1.46 percent increase for commercial collection.

## **OCEANSIDE**

The [Oceanside](#) City Council will meet in closed session to discuss labor negotiations, litigation and property negotiations at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at City Council Chambers, [300 N. Coast Highway](#). In regular session at 5 p.m., the council will introduce an ordinance establishing a Measure X citizens oversight committee; hold a hearing on an effort to establish an incentive agreement with CarMax Superstore California for a sales tax rebate of no more than \$5 million over 10 years to attract a car dealership to the city. The council will also hold a hearing on zoning amendments and revisions to Coastal Commission requirements for transitional and supportive housing and emergency shelters. A hearing on a resolution to allow medical cannabis land uses within certain districts is also scheduled.

## **SAN MARCOS**

The [San Marcos](#) City Council has canceled its meeting scheduled for Tuesday.

The city of San Marcos is taking applications for vacancies on its Parks & Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, San Marcos Community Foundation, Traffic Commission, Budget Review Committee and San Marcos Creek Specific Plan Oversight Committee. Application deadline is 5:30 p.m. Dec. 13. For information and requirements, visit [www.san-marcos.net/your-government/commissions-boards-committees](http://www.san-marcos.net/your-government/commissions-boards-committees). Contact the City Clerk's Office at (760) 744-1050, ext. 3100, or [cityclerk@san-marcos.net](mailto:cityclerk@san-marcos.net).

## **SOLANA BEACH**

The Solana Beach City Council will meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday in closed session to discuss litigation in City Council Chambers, 635 S. Highway 101. In regular session at 6 p.m., the council will hear a report on the Solana Energy Alliance's activities and operations. A public hearing will be conducted on fire mitigation, park and public use facilities development impact fees; the council will then introduce ordinances setting the various fees. The council will introduce an ordinance regulating sidewalk vending, and will discuss a citizens initiative petition for an ordinance on commercial cannabis retailers in nonresidential zones and deliveries/cultivation in all zones.

## **VISTA**

The [Vista](#) City Council will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in City Council Chambers, 200 Civic Center Drive, when it will consider naming the Moonlight Amphitheatre stage for founder Kathy M. Brombacher. The council will also hold a public hearing on the city's list of transportation projects eligible to use transportation sales tax (TransNet) funds, and consider a resolution amending the list of projects for fiscal years 2019-2023. A request from Solutions for Change for \$2.7 million in affordable housing funds for a campus expansion will be discussed.

The Vista City Council is seeking applicants for its 2019 scheduled vacancies on these boards and commissions: Central Vista Business Improvement District Advisory Board; Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee; Community Safety Commission; Investment Advisory Committee; Parks & Recreation Commission; Planning Commission; Public Arts Commission; Sales Tax Oversight Committee; Senior Citizens Affairs Commission; Traffic Commission; and Youth Advisory Commission. Application deadline for incumbents is Jan. 31; for all other applicants, Feb. 10. Youth applications are due May 1. Applications are available from the City Clerk's Office, 200 Civic Center Drive, or from the "City Commissions, Boards & Committees" web page at [cityofvista.com](#). Contact City Clerk Kathy Valdez at (760) 643-5320 or [kvaldez@cityofvista.com](mailto:kvaldez@cityofvista.com).

## SCHOOL DISTRICTS

### FALLBROOK

The Fallbrook Union High School District board is scheduled to meet in closed session at 5:30 p.m. Monday at Fallbrook High School, 2400 S. Stage Coach Lane, and in regular session at 6:30 p.m.

## San Diego County's coastal communities struggle with sea-level rise

**Posted: November 25, 2018 – San Diego Union Tribune**

Reporter: Michael Smolens

Climate change is still an abstract concept to many. Sea-level rise is something more relatable. That tends to be the case when water starts lapping at the front door.

Some low-lying coastal areas are experiencing more frequent and extensive flooding and experts say that's only going to get worse.

San Diego County's coastal cities are being forced to address the inevitable encroaching ocean, and a couple are dealing with it in somewhat different ways.

Imperial Beach is moving toward a long-term strategy of pushing to remove public infrastructure — sewer lines, buildings, schools — in areas increasingly prone to flooding. The South County city also is looking at ways to continue to protect coastal areas where possible with sand-dune building, sand replenishment and other strategies.

The big question is how the city and homeowners will deal with private property that is projected to be inundated in the decades to come. The issue is sensitive, as some private

property owners have raised suspicion that officials may eventually seek to extend that policy of “managed retreat” to their land. Mayor Serge Dedina says that is not the city’s focus.

At a recent community meeting, some residents expressed concern that the city was considering using eminent domain to take over private seashore properties, according to [Marty Graham of the Reader](#). Dedina said it simply “isn’t true” that the city is moving toward eminent domain, Graham wrote.

But the problem will have to be addressed eventually: The rising sea does not discriminate between public and private property.

Managed retreat — sometimes called “planned retreat” — is controversial, very costly and by no means easily accepted. It’s a political minefield.

The policy calls for eventually removing homes, all other buildings, sea walls and infrastructure from seashore property that is certain to be overtaken by the ocean.

It’s generally considered a last option, if that. In October, the city of Del Mar headed in the opposite direction when its City Council [rejected the idea](#) of including managed retreat in a document that addresses sea-level rise. Residents there worry that property values in the coastal enclave could drop millions of dollars if the city formally acknowledged some of those areas would have been abandoned eventually.

City officials and many residents contend seawalls, sand retention and replenishment, and river dredging can help preserve their coastal homes, though that is not a universal view within Del Mar.

The California Coastal Commission is increasing pressure on coastal jurisdictions to include managed retreat as part of the mix for future planning. Cities that don’t could lose out on commission permits for development, building sea walls and other barriers, along with grants for such things as sand replenishment.

Nevertheless, the Del Mar City Council voted to submit its sea-level rise plan to the commission without that option for retreating from the coast.

It’s a decision to stay put and fight the rising sea vs. change existing and future development to allow the land to absorb the incoming ocean.

Imperial Beach is taking the latter route regarding public property as part of a multipronged approach that includes shoreline protection measures. Imperial Beach is unique in that it has to deal with sea-level rise on three sides: the ocean to the west, the Tijuana River estuary to the south and the San Diego Bay to the north.

The city does not have the money to essentially shift blocks of public and private coastline development inland, even if it wanted to. Whether in Imperial Beach or Del Mar, figuring out how to pay for such a massive undertaking would be central to moving forward.

Ultimately, doing nothing might not be an option. Property prices are likely to drop in areas prone to flooding and insurance costs will rise, if insurance is available at all. Tens of thousands of beachfront homes across California face the risk of chronic flooding or worse.

All of this could reduce the property tax base in coastal towns.

Unlike the causes of climate change, there is virtually no dispute that the ocean is rising, though studies vary on just how high it will get in the future. Like Del Mar, Imperial Beach will have to address sea-level rise in plans to be submitted to the Coastal Commission. How the concept of managed retreat is dealt with could be a flash point there as well.

Imperial Beach readily acknowledges that sea-level rise will require changes. Earlier this month, the city launched a pilot program with the Scripps Institution of Oceanography to deploy [sensors in low-lying areas that will trigger flood alerts](#). Scripps officials said the system could be a model for other coastal areas to gather information about the effects of rising sea levels.

In nearby Chula Vista, the Port of San Diego is raising the level of land by up to 8 feet for the \$1 billion Bayfront hotel and convention center project, according to the [Union-Tribune's Gustavo Solis](#).

The port district, which manages 34 miles of waterfront property, is also elevating the Shelter Island boat launch and building an oyster reef along Chula Vista's shoreline to prevent erosion. Other projects are planned with a rising sea in mind.

The port district is part of a regional amalgamation of cities and agencies called the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative, which discusses and coordinates efforts regarding climate change, including rising ocean levels.

The port recently entered into a separate agreement with the U.S. Navy to coordinate on sea-level rise.

Homes in other low-lying areas including Coronado and Mission Beach would be lost to sea-level rise by the end of the century, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. [San Diego Bay also will be vulnerable](#), particularly with extreme weather events, subjecting the San Diego Convention Center, among other facilities should they continue to exist, to flooding.

Making adjustments to future projects — or reconsidering where they should be located — will trigger far-ranging discussions.

But as we have seen already, trying to figure out what to do about existing development in threatened areas will make that debate even more intense.

## **San Diego's marijuana supply chain taking shape, but fierce battles under way for final slots**

**Posted: November 25, 2018- The San Diego Union Tribune**

Reporter: David Garrick

San Diego's local supply chain for its marijuana dispensaries is quickly taking shape, but approvals for indoor pot farms and edible factories are becoming more contentious as the city

nears a cap it set of allowing 40 such businesses.

The city has awarded permits to nearly 30 marijuana production facilities since August, setting up a fierce battle for the final wave of permits among 31 more applicants.

Those not among the first 40 to be granted environmental exemptions and city approval hearings have begun trying to leapfrog the other businesses ahead of them in line by appealing their exemptions and preliminary approvals.

In addition, businesses located near some of the proposed facilities have begun protesting more vocally based on concerns about crime and safety, including a church in [Kearny Mesa](#) and tenants in an Otay Mesa Business Park.

Meanwhile, leaders of the local marijuana industry say they're hopeful the city might increase the number of marijuana production businesses it allows beyond 40.

That would boost the local marijuana supply chain and increase the tax revenue the city generates from the emerging industry. In addition to sales tax, San Diego has a special marijuana tax of 5 percent that will increase to 8 percent in July.

Prospects for lifting the cap may have improved with the Nov. 6 election, which shifted the San Diego City Council farther to the left politically.

Most notably, Democrat Jen Campbell, a vocal supporter of marijuana legalization, defeated Republican Lorie Zapf, who successfully lobbied for a cap on dispensaries and voted against allowing a local supply chain.

San Diego officials want the 19 legal dispensaries they've approved to have an adequate local supply chain to eliminate the need to truck marijuana in from elsewhere and to prevent a local "black market" of marijuana producers.

Unless the cap is lifted, local marijuana attorneys say, they expect the final wave of approvals to be marked by some fierce battles.

"There are a variety of appeals left, right and center," attorney Gina Austin said last week. "We are past the halfway point toward 40, so the hearings are starting to get more interesting."

In addition to those appeals, nearby businesses have also been more vocal.

Attorney Jessica McElfresh said that's partly because many of the marijuana production facilities in the first wave of approvals are located in ideal spots where no one would be inclined to appeal them.

But as city officials have moved on to proposed businesses with less ideal locations, the approvals have become more turbulent.

Last month, an Otay Mesa business park association appealed the environmental exemption of a marijuana production facility proposed for 1555 Laurel Bay Lane, contending the businesses would be a bad fit.

"The park was planned as an upscale, quiet group of small businesses with a professional image," association president Jaime Casano told the City Council. "The need for armed security at this business makes the neighbors nervous."

Casano also said the city's approval process deprives nearby businesses of an opportunity to fight against such businesses until too late in the process.

Last week, dozens of congregants from Kairos Christian Church in Kearny Mesa unsuccessfully lobbied the city's hearing officer to reject a permit approval for a marijuana production facility at 7895 Convoy Court.

They said they were concerned about odor, loitering and crime, noting that marijuana businesses are typically cash-only because the drug is still illegal under federal law, making most banks shy away.

McElfresh said concerns about security make no sense.

"I think ironically, these business parks will actually be safer than before because these businesses have to have security guards," she said. "So congratulations business park, you have a free security guard and a free surveillance system."

Loitering also seems unlikely, Austin said.

While dispensaries sell products to individual consumers, indoor pot farms and edible factories deliver their products to buyers and don't have any customers coming or going from the site.

McElfresh said she understands the concerns about odor, but she predicted it won't end up being a problem.

"I do think that smell mitigation as a concern is legitimate and the operators need to make it a priority, and they will," she said. "It's been extensively discussed during city review."

Austin agreed, stressing that the marijuana businesses have a lot to lose if they violate their city permit by allowing smells to drift into business parks filled with dentists and other businesses.

"If the smell is escaping because you aren't following the rules, that dentist is going to complain to the city and they will shut him down," Austin said.

Austin said a good indicator of the impact of marijuana production facilities is a handful of the businesses that began operating a few years ago thanks to an unintended city loophole.

"When you look at the ones that have been in operation, nobody even knows that they're there," she said. "These 'sky is falling' stories will play themselves out because we haven't seen that from the ones that are up and running under the old system."

Those businesses were allowed to continue operating for two years when the city voted to allow a legal supply chain shortly after state voters legalized recreational marijuana in November 2016.

Some of them can't obtain a city permit to continue past the two-year mark because they don't meet zoning requirements or city regulations barring dispensaries from being within 100 feet of housing or 1,000 feet of sensitive land uses like parks, churches, schools and youth-oriented facilities.

Others are in the process of getting their city permits, which, in most cases, would allow them to expand.

Most of the proposed businesses are located in [Mira Mesa](#), [Kearny Mesa](#) and Otay Mesa, with a handful in other neighborhoods that have the necessary light industrial zoning.

There are many more properties in those areas where marijuana production facilities could meet the city's zoning and land-use regulations, but the cap will prevent additional facilities from opening.

## Top California Democrat investigated for sexual misconduct

**Posted: November 24, 2018 – Sacramento Bee**

Reporter: Alexei Koseff

The California Democratic Party is investigating a sexual misconduct complaint against Chairman Eric Bauman after one of his deputies this week called for his removal.

"I take seriously any allegation brought forward by anyone who believes they have been caused pain," Bauman said in a statement Saturday night. "To that end, a prompt, thorough and independent investigation of the allegations has been undertaken by a respected outside investigator, ensuring these individuals making the charges are treated with respect and free from any concerns of retaliation."

"I look forward to putting these allegations behind us and moving forward as unified Democrats," he added.

Daraka Larimore-Hall, the second vice-chair of the party, on Friday filed paperwork to initiate Bauman's removal. In a letter sent to the party and reviewed by The Bee, he charged that he had learned of multiple incidents in which Bauman "sexually harassed, and in some cases sexually assaulted, individuals during Party functions." Larimore-Hall said he had spoken with two victims and a witness whom Bauman allegedly intimidated.

"I believe the victims. Their stories illustrate a clear and escalating pattern of Chairman Bauman's horrific and dehumanizing behavior," Larimore-Hall wrote. "This is unacceptable for a political organization dedicated to feminism, human rights and just working working conditions. Our activists and voters look to us as a force for social change, and we must embody the values we fight for in society."

The letter did not provide further details about the accusations, citing the alleged victims' privacy. Larimore-Hall did not respond to multiple efforts to reach him for comment.

The complaint against Bauman began circulating on social media on Friday night. Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Fremont, quickly [called](#) for the party to replace him with Stanford law Professor Michele Dauber, who [led the recall](#) of former Santa Clara County Judge Aaron Persky, or liberal activist Kimberly Ellis.

Bauman narrowly beat Ellis last year in a [contentious and controversial election](#) for California Democratic Party chair. A former nurse and health care consultant, Bauman oversaw the Los Angeles County party for more than a decade and later served as a top staffer in the Assembly Speaker's Office. He is openly gay.

As sexual harassment allegations against Sacramento lawmakers emerged last fall, Bauman [told reporters that he supported](#) a measure to extend whistleblower protections to legislative employees.

"Nobody should go to work and be in fear...because a bully or harasser is coming," he said in November 2017.

## **Residents fighting 20-story apartment tower proposed for Bankers Hill**

**Posted: November 23, 2018 – The San Diego Union Tribune**

Reporter: David Garrick

Nearby residents say a 20-story apartment building proposed for [Bankers Hill](#) is too tall, would damage neighborhood character and cast shadows on a prime part of Balboa Park.

Supporters say the 223-foot, 204-unit building would help solve San Diego's housing crisis and help the city meet goals for reducing greenhouse gases because the project is near transit, bike lanes and job centers in downtown and [Hillcrest](#).

The residents call the proposal "a rogue project" that would be an anomaly because of its height. They also worry it could set a precedent for additional buildings in Bankers Hill of the same height – or even taller.

Neighborhoods battling against high-rise projects is increasingly common in San Diego, as city officials seek to add housing in existing neighborhoods to avoid the traffic congestion and pollution that come with sprawl.

The Planning Commission approved the project in a 4-0 vote on Nov. 8. But opponents are expected to appeal the approval to the City Council, and they've also threatened to sue on environmental grounds.

The apartment tower is proposed next to iconic St. Paul's Cathedral at the corner of Olive Street and Sixth Avenue, just west of the park and a few blocks north of the El Prado entrance at Laurel Street.

The tower would feature ground floor commercial space that would become home to the administrative offices for St. Paul's, which is selling part of its property to a developer to strengthen the finances of the 149-year-old church.

The project would include a five-level, underground parking garage, a rooftop terrace with a pool and other amenities.

[It would also include 18 units reserved for people who earn less than 50 percent of the area's](#)

**median income: \$34,100 for a family of one, \$38,950 for a family of two and \$43,800 for a family of three.**

Business and environmental groups praised the project during the Nov. 8 hearing.

“We believe this is a very positive project that will add housing stock, help achieve our climate action plan goals and include new affordable units in a city that desperately needs them,” said Stefanie Benvenuto, a policy analyst for the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Matthew Vasilakis of the nonprofit Climate Action Campaign said the project is as close to perfect as his organization has seen.

“We must do everything we can to support more homes in the right places for the right people,” he said.

Colin Parent, executive director of transit advocacy group Circulate San Diego, said state and city “density bonus” laws create incentives for developers to include income-restricted units by allowing them to build more overall units when they do.

“You’re seeing the market respond and this is a great example of that response,” said Parent, suggesting city approval of the 20-story tower would encourage more developers to propose similar projects.

Omar Rawi, a senior official for developer Greystar, said the neighborhood concerns about height are overblown.

“Height can be interesting, height can be beautiful and height serves a purpose,” he said.

The Rev. Penny Bridges of St. Paul’s said she empathizes with residents about the height, but said the project should be viewed as a compromise.

**“I know that the planned height of the building is somewhat controversial, but it is our conviction that the benefit of additional rental housing, especially affordable housing, is a worthwhile trade-off,” she said.**

Leo Wilson, a longtime community leader speaking on behalf of residents in Bankers Hill and the adjacent Park West neighborhood, said allowing such a tall building would be a dangerous precedent.

“If it’s 225 feet, what about 250 or 300,” he said.

He also complained that the building would cast dark shadows on Balboa Park, contending that would damage the experience of the millions who visit the park each year.

“When do we look at Balboa Park and say the interests of the million people there don’t apply,” he said.

The residents would like a building no taller than 170 feet, with either a wider base so there could be the same number of units, or smaller units that would have lower rents because they

would have less square footage.

They also said the project wouldn't do much to solve the local housing crisis because all of the units except the 18 with income restrictions would be "luxury" units because Bankers Hill is a relatively expensive neighborhood.

Planning Commissioners said the taller building would make the skyline along the west side of the park more interesting, potentially marking the border of the park in a striking way like Central Park in New York City.

They also downplayed the concerns about height.

"I don't care about height if it's done right," Commissioner James Whalen said.

Opponents have until Monday to file an appeal to the City Council.



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: November 21, 2018  
TO: Honorable Mayor, Council President and City Council  
FROM: Elizabeth Maland, City Clerk  
SUBJECT: UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS - GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 6, 2018

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Please find attached a copy of the unofficial results from the County Registrar of Voters for the November 6, 2018 Municipal General Election, with 100 percent of the precincts counted. This includes the total number of ballots cast and the total number of votes cast for each candidate. Precinct results are not yet available.

There are, however, approximately 84,000 ballots remaining to be counted, not all of these are from city voters. These include ballots returned to the polls and provisional ballots. As results are updated, please be assured that we will get these results to you as soon as they are available.

The results, of course, are unofficial pending a final canvass of returns from the Registrar of Voters. Certification of the final official results is anticipated on or before December 6, 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth Maland".

Elizabeth Maland  
City Clerk

EM/mk

cc: Mara W. Elliott, City Attorney  
Kris Michell, Chief Operating Officer  
Andrea Tevlin, Independent Budget Analyst

GENERAL ELECTION  
 Tuesday, November 6, 2018  
 Unofficial Results #9  
 Updated 11/21/18

84,000 outstanding ballots remaining to be counted

<b>DISTRICT 2</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Jennifer Campbell	29,660	57.61%
Lorie Zapf	21,827	42.39%
<b>DISTRICT 4</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Monica Montgomery	17,734	56.98%
Myrtle Cole	13,387	43.02%
<b>DISTRICT 6</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Chris Cate	23,593	54.14%
Tommy Hough	19,987	45.86%
<b>DISTRICT 8</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Vivian Moreno	13,138	51.45%
Antonio Martinez	12,396	48.55%
<b>MEASURE E – MISSION VALLEY STADIUM – SOCCER CITY INITIATIVE</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
NO	291,730	68.52%
YES	134,037	31.48%
<b>MEASURE G – MISSION VALLEY STADIUM – SDSU WEST INITIATIVE</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
YES	230,060	54.25%
NO	194,032	45.75%
<b>MEASURE H – AMENDMENTS TO CHARTER SECTION 66 ENACTING TERM LIMITS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
YES	237,726	78.13%
NO	66,532	21.87%
<b>MEASURE J – AMENDMENTS TO CHARTER SECTION 225 MANDATORY DISCLOSURE OF BUSINESS INTEREST</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
YES	340,398	86.05%
NO	55,192	13.95%

GENERAL ELECTION  
Tuesday, November 6, 2018  
Unofficial Results #9  
Updated 11/21/18

84,000 outstanding ballots remaining to be counted

<b>MEASURE K – AMENDMENTS TO CHARTER SECTION 12(C) – TERM LIMITS FOR CITY COUNCILMEMBERS</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
YES	351,866	87.46%
NO	50,444	12.54%
<b>MEASURE L – CHARTER AMENDMENTS REGARDING ETHICS AND COMPENSATION FOR ELECTED CITY OFFICERS</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
YES	311,840	78.47%
NO	85,563	21.53%
<b>MEASURE M – AMENDMENTS TO CHARTER SECTION 39.1 – REAPPOINTMENT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEMBERS</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
YES	227,644	59.85%
NO	152,729	40.15%
<b>MEASURE N – REINSTATEMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DISABILITY RETIREMENT BENEFIT FOR POLICE OFFICERS</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
YES	313,632	78.23%
NO	87,277	21.77%
<b>MEASURE O – APPROVING BOND ISSUANCE FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES IN OTAY MESA (EIFD)</b>		
	<u>Vote Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
YES	2,795	75.28%
NO	918	24.72%